Backyard Weeds!

What is a weed? It's any plant that grows where you don't want it. Below are some of the most common backyard weeds found in our part of New Jersey in Spring. Take a walk around your yard, your neighborhood, or one of the Morris County Parks to see what you can find. Take a picture or check them off — if they are in your yard, go ahead and pull them up!

Once the Covid-19 Stay At Home is over and Education Center at The Frelinghuysen Arboretum reopens (and we hope soon!) bring your photos or list in and claim your prize — and it won’t be a weed!

**Broadleaf Plantain**  
*Plantago major*  
Each one of these plants can produce 20,000 seeds!

**Henbit**  
*Lamium amplexicaule*  
At times of year when there are not many pollinating insects, the flowers self-pollinate (although bees do like it, too.)

**Dandelion**  
*Taraxacum*  
Dandelions are one of the most vital early spring nectar sources for a wide host of pollinators

**Wild Onion or Garlic**  
*Allium vineale*  
This weed is tolerant to herbicides, which cannot cling well to the upright smooth leaves. So pull it out!

**Purple Dead Nettle**  
*Lamium purpureum*  
The pollen is a red color and is very noticeable on the heads of bees that frequent its flowers

**Garlic Mustard**  
*Alliaria petiolata*  
Garlic mustard was introduced to North America as a culinary herb in the 1860s and it is now an invasive species.

**Common Chickweed**  
*Stellaria media*  
*Stellaria* is derived from the word 'stellar' meaning 'star', which is a reference to the shape of its flowers

**Common Violet**  
*Viola sororia*  
This flower is often found in the lawn. It the State Flower of New Jersey and will disappear when spring ends.